



**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
Public Affairs Office

Media Advisory

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Corps plans July 7 **CHANGE OF COMMAND** ceremony

Walla Walla, Wash., -- Media outlets are invited to mark their calendars to attend the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers change of command ceremony July 7, at 11 a.m. at McNary Dam in Umatilla, Ore. This event, which is free and open to the general public, will include a 25-piece Army band and a ceremonial honor guard from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

The ceremony is held to formally install the District's new incoming top official who doubles as the organization's commander and principal supervisory engineer. The new arrival will be Lt. Col. Richard P. Wagenaar, who most recently served in Washington, D.C., at the Corps' headquarters in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

The departing commander is Lt. Col. William E. Bulen Jr., who will be taking up a new assignment at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska in a few weeks. He has been responsible for the Corps' civil works mission in parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming.

Brig. Gen. Carl Strock, commanding general of the Corps' Northwestern Division, will preside over the ceremony. He is responsible for Corps districts and their work across an area that includes all or parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota.

Media outlets planning to attend are asked to be set up and ready in position at least 15 minutes prior to the start of this event. Those with heavy gear to haul are asked to contact the Public Affairs Office at (509) 527-7020 no later than noon, Thursday, July 6, to arrange for one of a limited number of special access, local news media parking spaces near the event. Requests

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for brief interviews with members of the ceremonial party will need to be placed in advance and cannot be accommodated at any time before the ceremony has concluded. **-30-**